

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
SAVANNAH DIVISION

CR422 - 30

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO

FILED  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
AUGUSTA DIV.  
  
2022 MAR - 7 A 11:19  
  
CLERK  
SO. DIST. OF GA.

- ) INFORMATION NO.
- )
- ) 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I)
- ) Conspiracy to Conceal, Harbor and
- ) Shield Illegal Aliens
- )
- ) 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)
- ) Money Laundering Conspiracy
- )
- ) 18 U.S.C. § 1957
- ) Money Laundering Transactions
- ) Over \$10,000
- )
- ) 18 U.S.C. § 1513(a)(1)(A)
- ) Retaliation Against a Witness
- )
- ) 18 U.S.C. § 2
- ) Aiding and Abetting

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

INTRODUCTION

Eliud Montoya

1. Eliud Montoya immigrated to the United States. After completing the naturalization process, Mr. Montoya became a United States citizen in 2009. On August 19, 2017, Mr. Montoya was murdered. He was shot near his home in Garden City, Georgia.

2. Prior to his death, Mr. Montoya lived as a United States citizen with his family in Garden City, Georgia. To support his wife and children, Mr. Montoya lawfully worked for Wolf Tree, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Davey Tree Expert Company (“Company”). Mr. Montoya—sometimes referred to by his colleagues as the

“General”—worked on a crew and was responsible for trimming trees around utility lines.

3. The Company contracted with Georgia Power to maintain and trim trees around the utility lines in the Savannah, Georgia area.

**Pablo Rangel-Rubio**

4. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** was a foreign national, illegally present in the United States. He lived at 275 Milton Rahn Road, Rincon, Georgia (the “Compound”).

5. Despite his status as an illegal alien unlawfully in the United States, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** worked as a supervisor for the Company. In that capacity, he managed and supervised all Company employees in the Savannah area, including Mr. Montoya.

6. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** was responsible for hiring employees, completing their new hire employment paperwork, completing timesheet paperwork, and submitting payroll information for Company employees that worked in the Savannah, Georgia area. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** was responsible for meeting with employees and verifying identification documents, all despite his status as an illegal alien.

**Hiring and Employment of Illegal Aliens**

7. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully hired illegal aliens to work for the Company. At all times material to this Information, most of

the Company employees supervised by **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** were illegal aliens.

8. When illegal aliens sought employment with the Company in the Savannah area, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, provided the illegal alien applicants with assumed identities, specifically the names and social security numbers of others. The illegal aliens then used the assumed identities to work for the Company unlawfully.

9. To conceal the illegal aliens' unlawful status and ineligibility to work in the United States, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** used the assumed identities to complete employment paperwork, timesheets, and payroll information for the illegal aliens.

#### Siphoning of Illegal Aliens' Pay

10. Come payday, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** obtained paychecks from the Company made out to the illegal aliens' assumed identities.

11. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, with assistance from others, unlawfully paid the illegal aliens in cash for their work for the Company and sometimes withheld money from the illegal aliens' wages for personal financial gain.

12. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully diverted paychecks in the names of false employees to his own bank account for his personal financial gain.

13. DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO, aided abetted by others, unlawfully diverted paychecks in the names of false employees to coconspirators' bank accounts for personal financial gain.

14. As a result of DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO unlawful scheme to hire and employ illegal aliens, DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO and other coconspirators collectively received over \$3,500,000.

**Reporting the Scheme**

15. On or about April 18, 2017, Mr. Montoya contacted the Company to report DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S unlawful scheme to hire and employ illegal aliens.

16. On or about April 24, 2017, Mr. Montoya submitted a written complaint to the Company concerning DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S unlawful scheme to hire illegal aliens.

17. On or about April 24, 2017, DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO received Mr. Montoya's written complaint exposing the unlawful scheme to hire illegal aliens.

18. Between on or about April 24, 2017 and May 10, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO called a meeting of the Savannah-area Company employees to discuss Mr. Montoya's complaint. DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO had Mr. Montoya's written complaint read aloud to the Savannah-area Company employees in Mr. Montoya's presence.

19. On or about August 17, 2017, Mr. Montoya again exposed **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** unlawful scheme to hire illegal aliens by reporting the violations to the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). The EEOC is a federal agency responsible for enforcing federal employment laws.

20. Mr. Montoya reported to the EEOC that: **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** was an illegal alien; most of the Company's employees working under **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** were illegal aliens; **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** had social security numbers that were unlawfully used by illegal aliens at the Company; **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** paid the illegal aliens in cash and did not always pay the workers for the hours they worked; illegal aliens without valid licenses were unlawfully driving work trucks for the Company; and accidents were not properly handled because the workers were illegal aliens.

21. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** and others knew that Mr. Montoya exposed the unlawful employment scheme.

**COUNT ONE**

*Conspiracy to Conceal, Harbor, and Shield Illegal Aliens*  
8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I)

22. Paragraphs 1 through 21 of the Information are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

23. Beginning in or about December 2007 and continuing through on or about November 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in Chatham County and Effingham County, within the Southern District of Georgia, and elsewhere, the Defendant,

**PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO,**

aided and abetted by others known and unknown, with some joining the conspiracy earlier and others joining later, did knowingly and willfully combine, conspire, confederate and agree with other persons known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to commit an offense against the United States, that is, knowingly and in reckless disregard of the fact that aliens had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law, did conceal, harbor, and shield said aliens from detection for the purpose of commercial advantage or private financial gain in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii).

**OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY**

24. The object of the conspiracy was to make money from the unlawful employment of illegal aliens.

**MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY**

25. It was part of the conspiracy that conspirators would unlawfully provide housing for illegal aliens who had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law.

26. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would obtain names and social security numbers of others for the use of illegal aliens who had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law.

27. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would sell or provide the names and social security numbers of others to illegal aliens who had unlawfully come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law.

28. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would unlawfully hire illegal aliens who had unlawfully come to, entered and remained in the United States, to work for the Company using the names and social security numbers of others.

29. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would falsely complete employment and payroll paperwork for illegal aliens using names and social security numbers of others to allow illegal aliens to unlawfully work for the Company under assumed names.

30. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would falsely complete timesheet paperwork for illegal aliens using assumed names to produce Company paychecks.

31. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would use cellular phones, computers, and the internet to communicate with the Company to direct the mailings and deposits of Company paychecks in the assumed names of illegal aliens.

32. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would divert Company paychecks in the assumed names of illegal aliens to conspirators' home addresses, post office box, and bank accounts.

33. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would pay the illegal aliens in cash and sometimes keep a portion of the money earned by the illegal aliens.

34. It was further part of the conspiracy that conspirators would retaliate against whistleblowers for exposing the unlawful scheme to hire illegal aliens.

#### OVERT ACTS

35. In furtherance of the conspiracy, and to accomplish the object of the conspiracy, at least one of the conspirators committed or caused to be committed at least one of the following overt acts, among others, in the Southern District of Georgia and elsewhere:

36. On or about July 21, 2016, and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully provided shelter and housing at the Compound for his brother Juan Rangel-Rubio, Coconspirator 1 ("CC-1"), and other illegal aliens who had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law.

37. On or about July 21, 2016, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** wired \$121,709.94 from his Bank of America account ending in 2147 to a real estate law firm to purchase the Compound.

38. On or about August 4, 2016, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** transferred \$81,364.65 from his Wells Fargo account ending in 6752 through Check #99 to Sylvania Manufactured Homes to purchase a manufactured home to be located on the Compound.

39. In or about 2004 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates begin unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully authorized J.R., an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

40. On or about December 17, 2012, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, without J.R.'s authorization, canceled J.R.'s direct deposit for the week and arranged for the paycheck be mailed to **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** post office box.

41. On or about December 26, 2012, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, without J.R.'s authorization, canceled J.R.'s direct deposit for the week and directed the paycheck be mailed to **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** post office box. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** then received the paycheck into his Bank of America account ending in 2385.

42. On or about February 24, 2015, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, without J.R.'s authorization, canceled J.R.'s direct deposit and arranged it

be sent to **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** Bank of America account ending in 2385.

43. On or about April 6, 2015, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, without J.R.'s authorization, canceled J.R.'s direct deposit and arranged that a regular check be mailed.

44. Beginning in or about 2008 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** hired and unlawfully employed J.L.S.G., an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

45. Beginning in or about 2008 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown, provided J.L.S.G. a social security number belonging to another person so J.L.S.G. could work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** charged J.L.S.G. approximately \$120 for the social security number.

46. Beginning in or about 2016 and continuing through August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, falsely completed timesheet paperwork for J.L.S.G. to allow J.L.S.G. to work at the Company under an assumed name.

47. Between 2014 and 2016, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** hired and unlawfully employed R.R.B., an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

48. Between 2014 and 2016, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** falsely completed employment and payroll paperwork for R.R.B. using a name and social security of another so that R.R.B. could work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

49. Between 2014 and 2016, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** arranged for R.R.B.'s Company paychecks in the assumed name of R.R. to be deposited into **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** bank account.

50. Between 2014 and 2016, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, paid R.R.B., an illegal alien, in cash.

51. Beginning in or about April 2017 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, unlawfully employed R.R.H., an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company under an assumed name.

52. Beginning in or about April 2017 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** directed that R.R.H. be paid in cash.

53. Beginning in or about September 2013 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** hired and unlawfully employed J.R., an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company. **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** charged J.R. \$1,500 for J.R.'s use of names and social security numbers of others.

54. Beginning in or about September 2013 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, falsely completed employment and payroll paperwork for J.R. using names and social security numbers of others to allow J.R. to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

55. Beginning in or about September 2013 and continuing through in or about April 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** provided the assumed name of A.T.H. to J.R. so he could work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

56. Beginning in or about April 2017 and continuing through in or about July 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, provided the assumed name of F.S.L. to J.R. so he could work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

57. Beginning in or about July 2017 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-**

**RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others, provided the assumed name of M.V. to J.R. so he could work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

58. Beginning in or about February 2017 and continuing through on or about May 9, 2017, the exact dates being unknown, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** received Company paychecks in the assumed name of M.V. in his Bank of America accounts ending in 2385 and 2147.

59. On or about August 14, 2017, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** received a text message concerning the assumed and real identities of workers scheduled to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

60. Beginning at a time unknown, but from at least 2008 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully employed CC-1, an illegal alien, to work for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

61. Beginning at a time unknown, but from at least 2008 and continuing through on or about August 20, 2017, CC- illegally worked under several different assumed names for **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** at the Company.

62. Beginning at a time unknown, but at least from on or about December 14, 2007, and continuing through on or about November 20, 2017, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** unlawfully received over \$2,500,000 from the scheme to hire illegal aliens who had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of the law.

All in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I),  
(a)(1)(A)(iii), (a)(1)(B)(iv), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

**COUNT TWO**  
*Money Laundering Conspiracy*  
18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)

63. Paragraphs 1 through 21 of the Information are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

64. Beginning in or about 2008 and continuing through on or about November 20, 2017, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in Chatham County and Effingham County, within the Southern District of Georgia, and elsewhere, the Defendant,

**PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**

aided and abetted by others, did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, confederate and agree with others to conduct and attempt to conduct financial transactions affecting interstate commerce, with funds which were proceeds of a specified unlawful activity, that is, conspiracy to conceal, harbor, and shield illegal aliens from detection for the purpose of commercial advantage or private financial gain, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), and which funds the defendant knew to be the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, and did conspire to do so with the intent to promote the carrying on of the aforesaid specified activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(A)(i).

**OVERT ACTS**

65. In furtherance of the conspiracy, the conspirators committed and caused to be committed in the Southern District of Georgia and elsewhere, financial transactions affecting interstate commerce, using funds which were, and which the

defendants knew to be, proceeds of the unlawful conspiracy to conceal, harbor, and shield illegal aliens from detection for the purpose of commercial advantage or private financial gain, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), including, but not limited to, the transactions shown below:

66. Between December 14, 2007 and November 20, 2017, conspirators deposited more than \$2,000,000 of Company money into **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** Bank of America accounts ending in 2385, 8908, and 2147 and Wells Fargo account ending in 6752.

67. Between December 14, 2007 and November 20, 2017, conspirators deposited more than \$600,000 of Company money in the name of **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** into **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S** Bank of America accounts ending in 2385, 8908, and 2147.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

**COUNTS THREE THROUGH FIVE**  
*Money Laundering Transactions Over \$10,000*  
 18 U.S.C. § 1957(a)

68. Paragraphs 1 through 21 of the Information are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

69. On or about the dates set forth below, in the Southern District of Georgia and elsewhere, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO**, aided and abetted by others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly engage in the following monetary transactions by, through, and to a financial institution, in and affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, that was derived from a specified unlawful activity, that is, conspiracy to conceal, harbor, and shield illegal aliens from detection for the purpose of commercial advantage or private financial gain, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), knowing that the property was criminally derived:

COUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF MONETARY TRANSACTION
3.	July 21, 2016	The wiring of \$121,709.94 from <b>DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S</b> Bank of America account ending in 2147 to a real estate law firm
4.	August 4, 2016	The transfer of \$81,364.65 from <b>DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S</b> Wells Fargo account ending in 6752 through Check # 099 to Sylvania Manufactured Homes
5.	June 6, 2017	The wiring of \$20,000 from <b>DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO'S</b> Bank of America account ending in 2147 to Coconspirators 2 Wells Fargo account ending in 1913

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1957(a) and 2.

**COUNT SIX**

*Aiding and Abetting the Retaliation Against a Witness*  
18 U.S.C. §§ 1513(a)(1)(A) and 2.

70. Paragraphs 1 through 21 of the Information are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

71. Beginning in or about April 2017 and continuing through on or about August 19, 2017, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in Chatham County and Effingham County, within the Southern District of Georgia, and elsewhere, the Defendant,

**PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO,**

aided and abetted the killing of Eliud Montoya with the intent to retaliate against Eliud Montoya for providing testimony and producing records or documents in an official proceeding conducted by the EEOC, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1513(a)(1)(A) and 2.

**FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**

The allegations contained in Counts One through Six of this Information are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C), 982(a)(1) and 982(a)(6), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

Upon conviction of the offense set forth in Count One of this Information, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(6), any property real or personal, that constitutes, or is derived from or is traceable to the proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of the offense, or was used to facilitate, or was intended to be used to facilitate, the commission of the offense, which includes, but is not limited to, approximately 26.62 acres of real property located at 275 Milton Rahn Road. Rincon, Georgia 31326.

Upon conviction of the offense set forth in Count Two of this Information, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), any property, real or personal, involved in such offense, or any property traceable to such property. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, approximately 26.62 acres of real property located at 275 Milton Rahn Road. Rincon, Georgia 31326.

Upon conviction of one or more of the offenses set forth in Counts Three through Five of this Information, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), any property, real or personal, involved in such offense(s), or any

property traceable to such property. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, approximately 26.62 acres of real property located at 275 Milton Rahn Road. Rincon, Georgia 31326.

Upon conviction of Count Six of this Information, **DEFENDANT PABLO RANGEL-RUBIO** shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offense(s).

If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or commission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

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David H. Estes  
United States Attorney

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Karl I. Knoche  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Criminal Division

/s/ Tania D. Groover

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Tania D. Groover  
Assistant United States Attorney  
\*Lead Counsel

/s/ Chris Howard

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Chris Howard  
Assistant United States Attorney  
\*Co-lead Counsel